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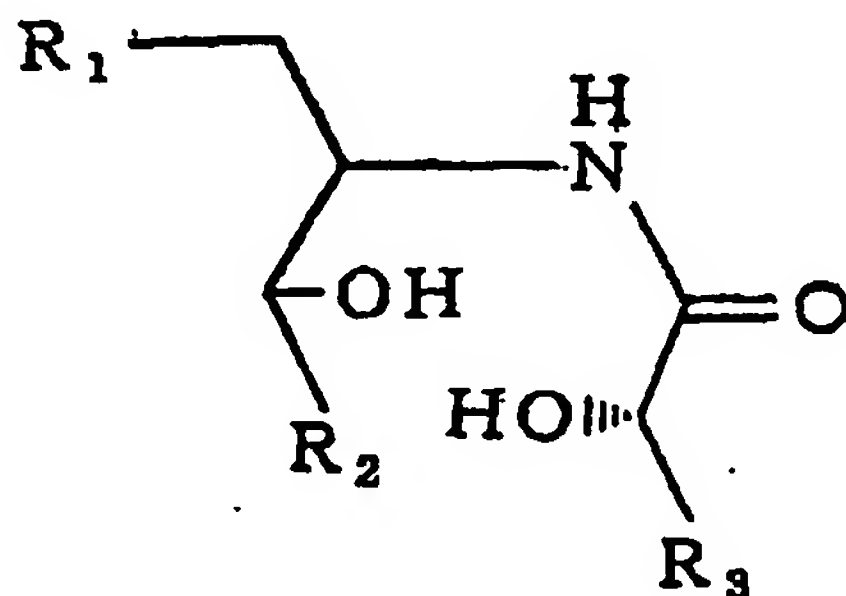
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(54) Emulsifier and emulsified composition

(57) The present invention provide an emulsifier containing a sphingoglycolipid which has a structure represented by the following formula:



(I)

wherein R₁ is a saccharide moiety which consists of three to four hexoses selected from the group consisting of uronic acid, glucosamine, galactose, and mannose, or one uronic acid, R₂ is an alkyl group, which may have a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group, or an alkynyl group, and R₃ is an alkyl group. The alkyl group, the alkenyl group and the alkynyl group may have a normal chain or a branched chain, and maybe substituted or unsubstituted. The emulsifier of the present invention has marked moisturizing effect, skin roughening preventing effect, and emulsifying effect.

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to an emulsifier containing a sphingoglycolipid having a specific structure.

[0002] Skin roughening is caused by loss of too much moisture from skin surface, when air is dry, skin is washed or the like. Further, since various chemicals have overflowed in the society in these days, the functions of the skin having touched these chemicals are likely to be deteriorated, and thus the skin roughening state is often caused by decrease of the lipid secretion function or the like. For this reason, it has been desired to provide a composition that can prevent skin roughening in advance and has excellent moisturizing effect.

[0003] As active compounds having moisturizing effect, various compounds, mainly water-soluble polyhydric alcohols, have been provided so far. Among those, some are already put into practical use like propylene glycol. However, many of those moisturizing compounds put into practical use are accompanied by unpleasant feeling when they are applied to the skin, or exhibit only insufficient moisturizing effect. Therefore, it is still desired to develop a novel moisturizing compound.

[0004] Under such a situation, sphingoglycolipids attract attentions as a safe moisturizing compound.

[0005] For example, it is disclosed that sphingoglycolipids have skin moisture retaining effect in Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication (KOKAI) Nos. 1-242690, 2-48520, 4-159203, and Japanese Patent Publication (KOKOKU) No. 6-80007. However, structures or compositions of sphingoglycolipids that are used in the examples of these patent documents are not clarified.

[0006] Moreover, Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication (KOKAI) No. 6-157283 discloses a moisturizing cosmetic for skin external application which is characterized by inclusion of a sphingoglycolipid represented by a specific general formula as one of its ingredients. However, the saccharide portion mentioned in the general formula is described simply as a saccharide residue, and it does not refer to the detail of the saccharide portion.

[0007] Thus, while it has been known that sphingoglycolipids have moisturizing effect, substantially no research has been made about the chemical structures of the sphingoglycolipids having such moisturizing effect.

[0008] As a document that specifically mentions sphingoglycolipids having the moisturizing effect, Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication (KOKAI) No. 61-286307 can be mentioned. This patent document describes that gangliosides have skin moisturizing effect and skin softening effect, and discloses a skin cosmetic containing a ganglioside or a salt thereof. Gangliosides are sphingoglycolipids characterized by inclusion of an aminosaccharide and sialic acid in addition to a neutral saccharide.

[0009] Further, Japanese Patent Unexamined Publication (KOKAI) Nos. 5-39485, 7-133217, and 7-285827 disclose agents for skin external application which utilize cerebroside. Cerebroside is a sphingoglycolipid consisting of fatty acid, sphingosine base, and neutral saccharide (galactose or glucose) in a molar ratio of 1:1:1.

[0010] As described above, as for the sphingoglycolipids having the moisturizing effect to the skin, only several kinds of structures have been specified. Therefore, it has not been elucidated at all for what kind of structure of sphingoglycolipids generally impart potential moisturizing effect to them. For this reason, even when a mixture of sphingoglycolipids was obtained from a living organism, the mixture must be used as it was since such a potential active ingredient was unknown, and thus the moisturizing effect could not be properly enhanced by purification. Moreover, because any general structure of sphingoglycolipids having potential activity was not been elucidated, moisturizers have also scarcely been produced by chemical synthesis.

[0011] Further, to use as an ingredient of cosmetics and the like, an ingredient must have a property that it can be easily formulated as cosmetics in addition to the moisturizing effect and skin roughening preventing effect. Since many of cosmetics are composed of an emulsified composition of oil component and aqueous component, ease of utilization for an emulsified composition is very important for the ingredient. Therefore, if an active ingredient which also exhibit emulsifying effect in addition to the moisturizing effect or the skin roughening preventing effect can be provided, it will be very useful. However, sphingoglycolipids have never been studied from such a viewpoint so far.

[0012] It is, therefore, the object of the present invention to provide an emulsifier which overcomes the drawbacks of the prior art emulsifiers. This object is solved by the emulsifier according to independent claim 1 and the method for producing an emulsified composition according to independent claim 10, and the emulsified compositions according to independent claims 11 and 12. Further advantageous features, aspects and details of the invention are evident from the dependent claims and the description. The claims are to be understood as a first non-limiting approach to define the invention in general terms.

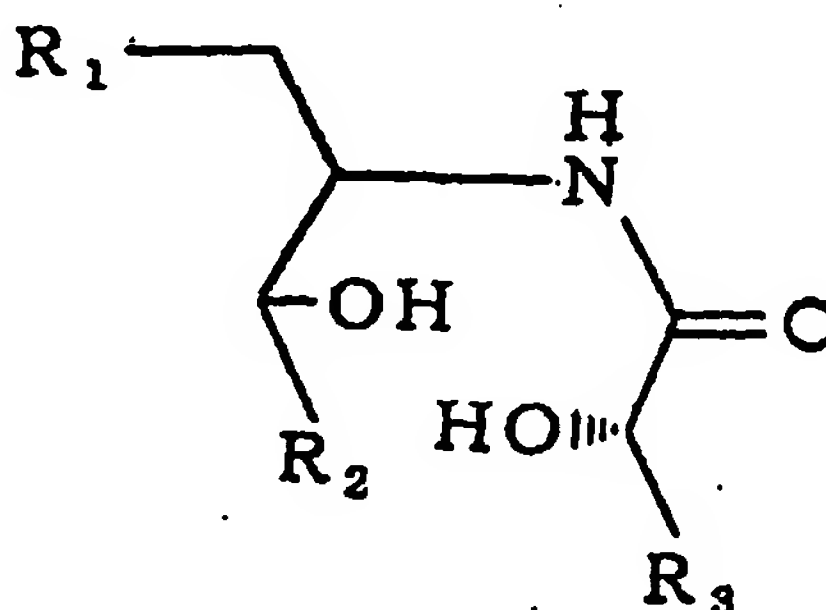
[0013] In view of these problems of the prior art, the present inventors conducted studies aiming at identifying structures of sphingoglycolipids having potential moisturizing effect, skin roughening preventing effect, and emulsifying effect. That is, an aspect of the present invention was to identify a group of sphingoglycolipids having potential moisturizing effect, skin roughening preventing effect and emulsifying effect, and thereby provide an emulsifier containing them. In a further aspect, the present invention is also aimed at providing an emulsified composition using such an emulsifier, and an effective method for producing an emulsified composition using such an emulsifier.

[0014] Because the emulsifier of the present invention has excellent moisturizing effect, skin roughening preventing

effect, and emulsifying effect, it can widely be used for cosmetic and medical products. Moreover, the present invention also relates to a method for producing an emulsified composition using the emulsifier, and an emulsified composition using the emulsifier.

[0015] In order to achieve the aforementioned object and aspects, the present inventors diligently conducted studies. As a result, they found that sphingoglycolipids of a specific structure have excellent moisturizing effect, skin roughening preventing effect, and emulsifying effect, and thus accomplished the present invention.

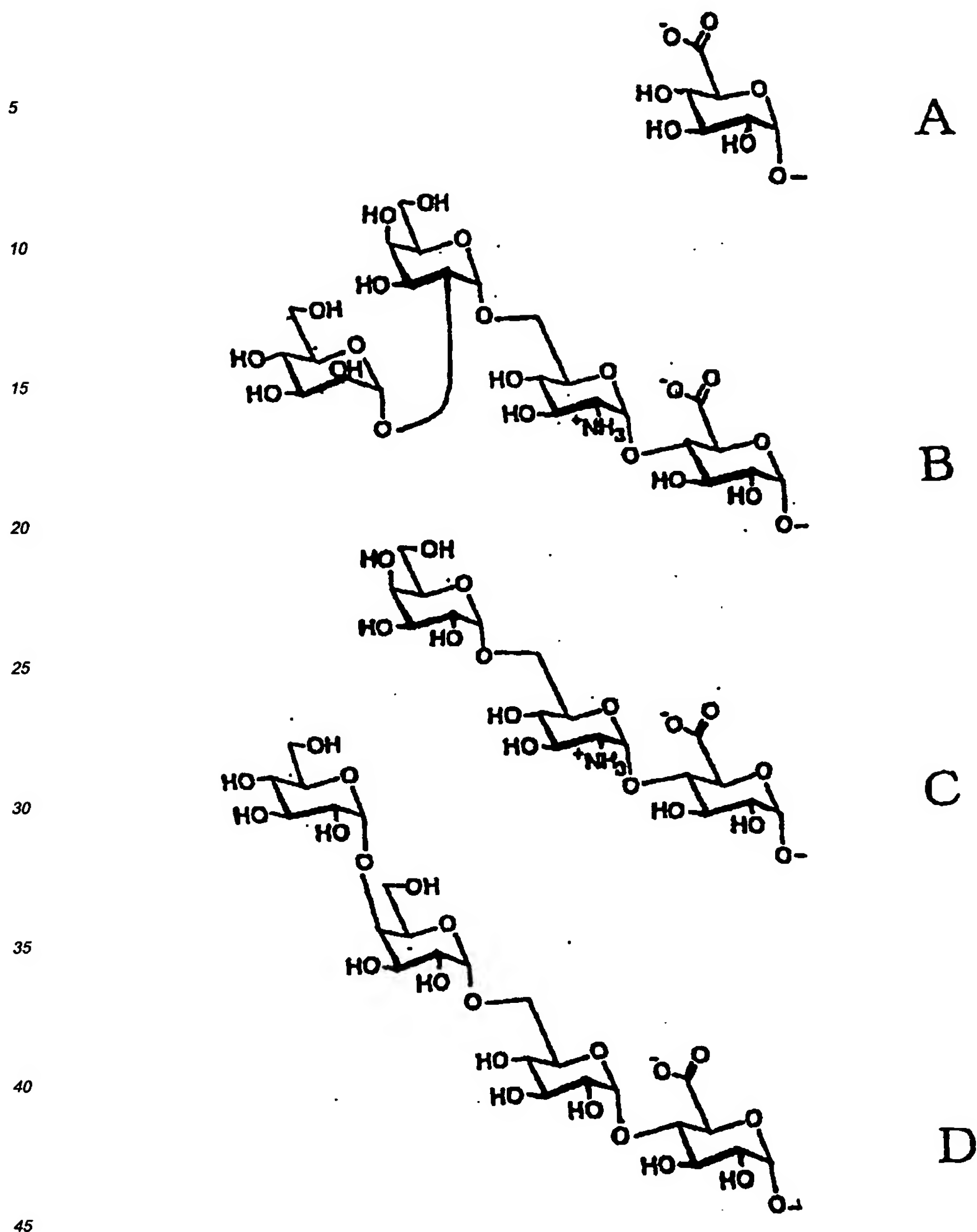
[0016] That is, the present invention provides an emulsifier characterized in that it contains a sphingoglycolipid having a structure represented by the following formula.



(I)

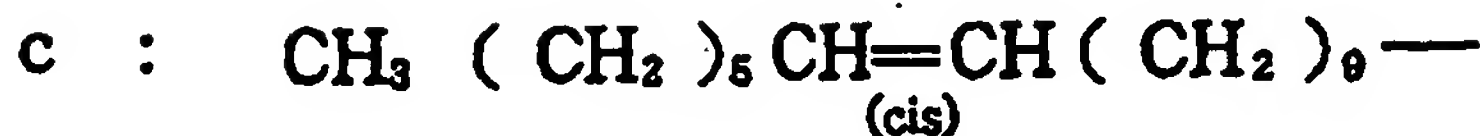
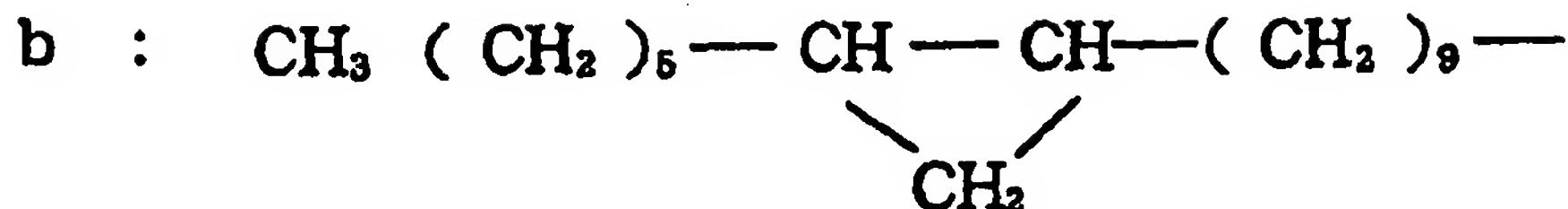
[0017] In the above formula, R_1 is a saccharide moiety which consists of three to four hexoses selected from the group consisting of uronic acid, glucosamine, galactose, and mannose, or one uronic acid. As for the three to four hexoses, their number, linking order, linking scheme, and optical isomerism are not particularly limited so long as they consist of a combination of one to four saccharides selected from uronic acid, glucosamine, galactose, and mannose. Examples of the combination constituting R_1 include, for example, those consisting of only one uronic acid, those consisting of four hexoses of uronic acid, glucosamine, galactose, and mannose, those consisting of three hexoses of uronic acid, glucosamine, and galactose, and those consisting of four hexoses of uronic acid, galactose, and two glucoses.

[0018] As specific examples of R_1 , the following Structures A to D can be exemplified.



[0019] In the formula (I), R_2 is an alkyl group, which may have a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group, or an alkynyl group. While the carbon number of R_2 is not particularly limited, it is preferably within the range of 15-25. The alkyl group, the alkenyl group and the alkynyl group for R_2 may have a normal chain or a branched chain, and they may be substituted with a hydroxyl group and the like, or may not have any substituent. In particular, the alkyl group may contain a cycloalkyl group such as cyclopropyl group in its chain. Location of the double bond of the alkenyl group and location of the triple bond of the alkynyl group are not particularly limited.

[0020] As specific examples of R_2 , the following Structures a to c can be exemplified.



20 [0021] In the formula (I), R_3 is an alkyl group. The alkyl group for R_3 may have a normal chain or a branched chain, and they may be substituted with a hydroxyl group and the like, or may not have any substituent. The carbon number of the alkyl group is usually within the range of 1-50, preferably within the range of 15-25. As specific examples of R_3 , a normal chain alkyl group having a carbon number of 12 can be exemplified.

25 [0022] As a group of the sphingoglycolipids preferably used for the emulsifier of the present invention, sphingoglycolipids of the formula (I) wherein R_1 is a saccharide moiety represented by Structure A, B, C, or D, and R_3 is a normal chain alkyl group having a carbon number of 12 can be mentioned.

[0023] Further, as another preferred group of the sphingoglycolipids, sphingoglycolipids of the formula (I) wherein R_2 is represented by Structure a, b, or c, and R_3 is a normal chain alkyl group having a carbon number of 12 can be mentioned.

30 [0024] As a particularly preferred group of the sphingoglycolipids, sphingoglycolipids of the formula (I) wherein R_1 is a saccharide moiety represented by Structure A, B, C, or D, R_2 is represented by Structure a, b, or c, and R_3 is a normal chain alkyl group having a carbon number of 12 can be mentioned.

35 [0025] The emulsifier of the present invention may contain one or more kinds of these sphingoglycolipids represented by the formula (I). When two or more kinds of sphingoglycolipids are contained in combination, ratio of the sphingoglycolipids is not particularly limited.

[0026] The sphingoglycolipids represented by the formula (I) can be obtained by extraction from cells containing the sphingoglycolipids. Since the sphingoglycolipid is contained in cells of bacteria belonging to the genus *Sphingomonas*, the sphingoglycolipids represented by the formula (I) can be obtained by extraction using any one of bacteria belonging to the genus *Sphingomonas*. Because the sphingoglycolipids represented by the formula (I) are insoluble in acetone, 40 the cells are preferably washed with acetone before the extraction. A solvent used for the extraction of the sphingoglycolipids of the formula (I) is preferably an alcoholic solvent such as methanol, or a mixed solvent of an alcoholic solvent and a polar solvent such as chloroform, from the viewpoint of yield. However, any solvent other than these may also be used so long as it is a solvent solubilizing the sphingoglycolipids.

45 [0027] When a mixture of sphingoglycolipids is obtained, each component can be separated according to a well known method in the art. For example, sphingoglycolipids having each of Structure A, Structure B, Structure C, and Structure D as R_1 can be completely separated by chromatography. When a chloroform/methanol mixed solution is used as an eluate, each sphingoglycolipid is eluted in the order of those having Structure A, Structure C, Structure D, and Structure B. Therefore, they can be very easily separated. Separation conditions of chromatography, such as chromatography material, eluate, elution speed, pressure, and temperature, can suitably be controlled. Further, the separation 50 tion can also be achieved by allowing a reagent which selectively react with a specific substance contained in a mixture of sphingoglycolipids to act on the mixture to produce a derivative of the substance, and separating the derivative utilizing its chemical or physical property.

55 [0028] When *Sphingomonas paucimobilis* is used as the bacterium, sphingoglycolipids having Structure A and sphingoglycolipids having Structure B as R_1 in the formula (I) are generally obtained. When *Sphingomonas capsulata* is used, sphingoglycolipids having Structure A and sphingoglycolipids having Structure C as R_1 in the formula (I) are generally obtained. Further, when *Sphingomonas adhaesiva* is used, sphingoglycolipids having Structure A and sphingoglycolipids having Structure D as R_1 in the formula (I) are generally obtained. Therefore, a desired sphingoglycolipid can be efficiently obtained by selecting bacterium based on such information.

[0029] The sphingoglycolipids represented by the formula (I) can also be synthesized by combination of well known synthetic processes. For example, the saccharide and the sphingosine moieties are synthesized beforehand, or extracted from cells, and each of the sphingoglycolipids represented by the formula (I) can be prepared by forming an amide bond between the moieties.

5 **[0030]** The form of the emulsifiers containing the sphingoglycolipids represented by the formula (I) is not particularly limited. Therefore, they can take any form such as solid, liquid, paste, jelly, and powder. In order to form such forms, for example, the emulsifiers can be solidified by using a gelling agent, or made into dispersion by using a liquid. It can also be made into a solution by adding a solvent, or made into powder by spray drying.

10 **[0031]** It was confirmed that the emulsifier of the present invention had excellent moisturizing effect and excellent skin roughening preventing effect, gave proper moisture to the skin surface, and maintained smoothness of the skin. That is, the emulsifier of the present invention can retain moisture of the skin over a long period of time. Such an effect of the present invention is considerably superior to those of gangliosides and galactocerebrosides, which are the sphingoglycolipids of which moisturizing property has been confirmed. Therefore, the emulsifier of the present invention can be used very effectively, when improvement of skin roughening, improvement of keratin, or protection of skin is required.

15 **[0032]** Moreover, the emulsifier of the present invention also has anti-atopy effect. Therefore, the emulsifier of the present invention is also applicable to prevention and medical treatment of atopic dermatitis.

[0033] Furthermore, the emulsifier of the present invention is characterized by its high emulsifying effect. Therefore, by using the emulsifier of the present invention, an emulsified composition can be produced without further using other commonly used emulsifiers. Therefore, when the emulsifier of the present invention is used, an emulsified composition
20 simultaneously exhibiting the moisturizing effect, skin roughening preventing effect, and emulsifying effect can be obtained, and thus it is very convenient. That is, in the conventional production of an emulsified composition utilizing a moisturizing component and skin roughening preventing component, an emulsifier must be added separate from those components. However, such a situation can be avoided by using the emulsifier of the present invention. Therefore, if the emulsifier of the present invention is utilized, the number of active ingredients can be reduced, and thus production cost
25 can be reduced.

[0034] The emulsifier of the present invention can be used for, for example, production of cosmetics or medical products. For example, it can be used for the production of toilet soap, shampoo, face washer, hair rinse, eye cream, eye shadow, cream and milky lotion, toilet water, perfume, makeup powder, cosmetic oil, hair cosmetic, hair dye, cream perfume, powder, pack, shaving cream, shaving lotion, suntan oil, sunscreen oil, suntan lotion, sunscreen lotion, suntan
30 cream, sunscreen cream, foundation, powder perfume, rouge, mascara, eyebrow shadow, nail cream, manicure, manicure remover, hair washer, bath cosmetic, lipstick, lip cream, eye liner, tooth paste, deodorant, cologne, hair restorer, hair nourishing composition and the like. Moreover, the emulsifier of the present invention can also be used for the production of ointment or fomentation. These emulsified compositions can be produced by using only the emulsifier of the present invention as the emulsifier.

35 **[0035]** The method for producing an emulsified composition by using the emulsifier of the present invention as an emulsifier is not particularly limited. Therefore, an emulsified composition can be produced by a method well known to those skilled in the art. Although most emulsified compositions can sufficiently be produced by using only the emulsifier of the present invention as an emulsifier, it is also possible to use it together with a known emulsifier.

40 **[0036]** As the method for producing an emulsified composition using the emulsifier of the present invention, for example, the production method using the D-phase emulsification can be exemplified. The D-phase emulsification is explained in detail in FRAGRANCE JOURNAL 1993-4, p.34.

[0037] As a specific production method, for example, an emulsified composition can be produced by mixing the emulsifier of the present invention with a polyhydric alcohol and a fat or oil component to form a gel, and emulsifying the gel through mixing with an aqueous component. By this method, fine emulsions can be formed. In this production method,
45 the polyhydric alcohol and the fat or oil component are gelled by mixing with the emulsifier of the present invention. In this case, unless the fat or oil component is slowly added to the emulsifier of the present invention dissolved in the polyhydric alcohol, good gelation cannot generally be obtained. For this reason, it is desirable to gradually add the fat or oil component while operating a homogenizer such as Disper and homomixer. Further, in this production method, when a plurality of fat or oil compositions different in their kind and concentration are used, they are preferably added separately and sequentially, not added simultaneously. When the fat or oil components are added successively, the viscosity
50 of the mixture is gradually decreased. Therefore, it is preferred that the stirring speed of the homogenizer is gradually lowered.

[0038] The fat or oil component prepared as described above is mixed with the aqueous component. While the method for this mixing is not particularly limited, it is preferable to uniformly mix them by using a homogenizer or the like. After the mixing, and optionally degassing and the like, a desired emulsified composition can be obtained.
55

[0039] The composition of the emulsified composition produced by using the emulsifier of the present invention is not particularly limited. A preferred emulsified composition is an oil in polyhydric alcohol type emulsified composition containing the emulsifier of the present invention, the polyhydric alcohol and the oil component as essential components.

A particularly preferred emulsified composition contains 0.05 to 30% by weight of the emulsifier of the present invention as the sole emulsifier, 1 to 60% by weight of the polyhydric alcohol, and 10 to 90% by weight of the oil component.

[0040] The emulsified composition produced by using the emulsifier of the present invention may contain various components other than the sphingoglycolipid depending on its purpose. For example, it may contain ingredients suitable for the improvement of emollient effect, improvement of feeling upon use, alleviation of crust after use, improvement of solubility, alleviation of stretched feeling after use, improvement of adhesion to the skin, improvement of spread on the skin, alleviation of stickiness, prevention of skin roughening, improvement of skin care effect, improvement of skin protection effect, improvement of keratin, normalization of epithelial cornification (prevention of deficient cornification due to acceleration of skin turn over, prevention of pachymenia and suppression of epithelial lipid metabolic error), alleviation of xeroderma such as senile xeroderma, improvement of dry skin conditions such as crazing and desquamation, suppression of wrinkle generation, elimination of wrinkles, wound treatment, prevention and improvement of pigmentation, prevention of senescence, alleviation of dandruff and itching, alleviation of unhairing, prevention and treatment of scalp diseases, improvement of preservative quality, improvement of plasticity, improvement of elasticity, gloss impartation, inhibition of melanin production, prevention of suntan and the like.

[0041] Depending on the purpose of use, the emulsified composition of the present invention may further contain, for example, a fat and oil component, UV absorber, IR absorber, antiseptic, fungicide, antioxidant, whitening agent, vitamin, amino acid, hormone, peptide, physiologically active plant extract, fluorescent substance, pigment, coloring matter, aromatic, scrub agent, sequestering agent, binder, extender, thickener, saccharide, nutrition ingredient, pH regulator, chelating agent, germicide, keratin improvement agent, keratin solvent, antibiotic, skin permeation accelerator, blood circulation accelerator, resolution agent, cell activator, anti-inflammatory agent, analgesic, skin softener, skin emollient, wound treatment agent, metabolism accelerator and the like. Further, moisturizing agents other than the sphingoglycolipid represented by the formula (I) can also be added.

[0042] As the fat and oil component which can be used for the emulsified composition of the present invention, there can be mentioned, for example, fatty acids (e.g., oleic acid, behenic acid, isostearic acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, linolic acid, γ -linolenic acid, columbinic acid, eicosa-(n-6,9,13)-trienoic acid, arachidonic acid, α -linolertic acid, timnodonic acid, hexaenoic acid etc.), ester oils (e.g., pentaerythritol-tetra-2-ethyl hexanoate, isopropyl myristate, butyl stearate, hexyl laurate, octyldodecyl myristate, diisopropyl adipate, diisopropyl sebacate, isopropyl myristate, octyldodecyl myristate, neopentyl glycol dioctanoate, neopentyl glycol dicaprate, diisostearyl malate, di(2-heptylundecyl) adipate, octyldodecyl lactate, isotridecyl isonanonate, cetyl isooctanoate, vitamin A palmitate etc.), waxes (e.g., bee wax, spermaceti wax, lanolin, carnauba wax, candelilla wax, vaseline etc.), animal oils and vegetable oils (e.g., mink oil, olive oil, castor oil, cacao butter, palm oil, cod liver oil, beef tallow, butter fat, evening primrose oil, rice bran oil, squalane, sesame oil, safflower oil, macadamia nut oil, jojoba oil, lanolin, mink oil, turtle oil etc.), mineral oils (e.g., hydrocarbon oil, liquid paraffin etc.), hydrocarbons (α -olefin oligomers, liquid isoparaffin etc.), silicone oils (e.g., dimethylpolysiloxane, methylphenylpolysiloxane, octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane, decamethylcyclopentanesiloxane etc.), higher alcohols (e.g., lauryl alcohol, stearyl alcohol, isostearyl alcohol, oleyl alcohol, cetyl alcohol, 2-hexyldecanol, 2-octyldodecanol, 2-decyltetradecanol, cholesterol, phytosterol etc.), triglycerides (e.g., glyceryl trioctanoate, tri(capryl and capric acid)glycerin), and derivatives thereof. Further, as organic acids, α -hydroxy acids, hydroxycarboxylic acids, dicarboxylic acids, glycyrrhizinic acid, glycyrrhetic acid, mevalonic acid (mevalonolactone) and the like can be used.

[0043] Examples of the UV absorber which can be used for the emulsified composition of the present invention include, for example, oxybenzone (2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzophenone), oxybenzonesulfonic acid, oxybenzonesulfonic acid trihydrate, guaiazulene, ethylene glycol salicylate, octyl salicylate, dipropylene glycol salicylate, phenyl salicylate, homomenthyl salicylate, methyl salicylate, methyl diisopropylcinnamate, cinoxate (2-ethoxyethyl p-methoxycinnamate), glyceryl di-p-methoxycinnamate mono-2-ethylhexanoate, dihydrozomethoxybenzophenone, sodium dihydroxymethoxybenzophenoedisulfonate, dihydroxybenzophenone, tetrahydroxybenzophenone, p-aminobenzoic acid, ethyl p-aminobenzoate, glyceryl p-aminobenzoate, amyl p-dimethylaminobenzoate, 2-ethylhexyl p-dimethylaminobenzoate, p-hydroxyanisole, 2-ethylhexyl p-methoxycinnamate, isopropyl p-methoxycinnamate, cinnamic acid diisopropyl ester, 2-(2-hydroxy-5-methylphenyl)benzotriazole, sodium hydroxymethoxybenzophenonesulfonate, 4-tert-butyl-4'-methoxybenzoylmethane, 2-ethylhexyl salicylate, glyceryl p-aminobenzoate, methyl o-aminobenzoate, 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzophenone, amyl p-dimethylaminobenzoate, 2-phenylbenzimidazole-5-sulfonic acid, 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzophenone-5-sulfonic acid, digalloyl trioleate, 2-ethoxyethyl p-methoxysilicate, butylmethoxybenzoylmethane, glyceryl-mono-2-ethylhexanoyl-di-p-methoxybenzophenone, 2-ethylhexyl-2-cyano-3,3'-diphenyl acrylate, 2,2'-dihydroxy-4-methoxybenzophenone, ethyl 4-bishydroxypropylaminobenzoate and the like.

[0044] Examples of the powdered material which can be used for the emulsified composition of the present invention include, for example, talc, Kaolin, fuller's earth, rubber, starch, silica, silicic acid, aluminum silicate hydrate, chemically modified magnesium aluminum silicate, poly(sodium acrylate), tetraalkylarylammonium snuctite, trialkylarylammonium snuctite, ethylene glycol monostearate, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, carboxyvinyl polymer, chalk, gummy substance, ethylene glycol monostearate, ethylene glycol distearate and the like.

[0045] As the polyhydric alcohol which can be used for the emulsified composition of the present invention, glycerin,

polyglycerin such as diglycerin, triglycerin, tetraglycerin, and pentaglycerin, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, propylene glycol, 1,3-butylene glycol, 1,4-butylene glycol, 1,2-pentanediol, dipropylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, sorbitol, erythritol, pentaerythritol, maltotriose, threitol, sucrose, glucose, maltose, maltitose, fructose, xylitose, inositol and the like can be exemplified.

5 **[0046]** Examples of other ingredients which can be used for the emulsified composition of the present invention include, for example vitamins (e.g., vitamin A, vitamin B₁, vitamin B₂, vitamin B₆, vitamin B₁₂, vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E, vitamin K etc.), amino acids (e.g., proline, leucine, isoleucine, alanine, threonine, lysine, cysteine, arginine etc.), hormones (e.g., follicle hormone, pregnenolone, adrenocortical hormone etc.), peptides (e.g., keratin, collagen, elastin etc.), saccharides (e.g., those exemplified for polyhydric alcohol etc.), mineral salts (e.g., sodium chloride, sodium hydrogencarbonate, sodium carbonate, borax, sodium sulfate, sodium sulfide, sodium thiosulfate, sodium sesquicarbonate, magnesium oxide, calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, potassium chloride, potassium sulfide etc.), lactic acid bacteria culture product, sterols (e.g., cholesterol, provitamin D₃, campesterol, stigmastanol, stigmasterol, 5-dihydrocholesterol, α -spinasterol, fatty acid cholesterol ester etc.), sphingosines (e.g., sphingosine, dihydrosphingosine, phytosphingosine, dehydrosphingosine, dehydrophytosphingosine, sphingadienine etc.), ceramides, pseudoceramides, saponin, chitin derivatives, oligosaccharides (e.g., maltose, xylobiose, isomantose, lactose, sucrose, raffinose, maltotriose, xylotriose, maltotetraose, xylotetraose, maltopentaose, xylopentaose, maltohexaose, xylohexaose, maltoheptaose, xyloheptaose etc.), acidic mucopolysaccharides (e.g., hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, heparin, heparan sulfate etc.), yeast extract and the like.

10 **[0047]** The emulsified composition of the present invention may further contain a thickener (e.g., carboxyvinyl polymer, carboxymethylcellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, carrageenan, alginate, alginic acid propylene glycol ester, gelatin, electrolytes such as sodium chloride etc.), skin whitening agent (e.g., arbutin, allantoin, vitamin E derivative, glycyrrhizin, magnesium salt of ascorbic acid and phosphoric acid ester, kojic acid, pantothenic acid derivative, placental extract, coix seed, green tea, pueraria root, mulberry bark, Glycyrrhiza, scutellariae radix, aloe, bitter orange peel, camomile, Litchi chinensis etc.), skin protective agents (e.g., retinol, retinol ester, retinoic acid etc.), skin softeners (e.g., stearyl alcohol, glyceryl monoricinoleate, mink oil, cetyl alcohol, stearic acid, palm oil, castor oil, orth-stearic acid etc.), skin emollients (e.g., stearyl alcohol, monorecinoleic acid glyceride, monostearic acid glyceride, cetyl alcohol etc.), skin permeation accelerator (e.g., 2-methylpropan-2-ol, 2-propanol, ethyl-2-hydroxypropanoate, 2,5-hexanediol, acetone, tetrahydrofuran etc.), physiologically active plant extracts (e.g., extracts of aloe, Arnica montana, Glycyrrhiza glabra, sage, Swertia japonica etc.), preservatives (e.g., p-hydroxybenzoic acid ester, sodium benzoate, urea, methylparaben, ethylparaben, propylparaben, butylparaben etc.), anti-inflammatory agents (e.g., salicylic acid etc.), germicides (e.g., triclosan etc.), antioxidants (e.g., α -tocopherol, butylhydroxytoluene etc.), buffers (e.g., combinations of triethanolamine or sodium hydroxide and lactic acid etc.), keratin resolvents (e.g., lactic acid, glycolic acid, malic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid etc.), scrub agents (e.g., polyethylene powder etc.), pigments (e.g., lakes of calcium, barium, and aluminium, iron oxide, titanium dioxide, mica etc.) and the like.

35 **[0048]** Ingredients other than those mentioned above can also be added to the emulsified composition of the present invention depending on its purpose. Addition amount and addition method for each ingredient may be selected according to amounts and techniques known in the art.

40 **[0049]** The emulsified composition of the present invention can be widely used for cases where moisturizing effect and anti-atopy effect are required. The amount to be used is decided within a range that sufficiently affords desired moisturizing effect.

[0050] Hereinafter, the present invention will be explained more specifically with reference to the following examples. The ingredients, ratios, operational sequences and the like shown in the following examples maybe suitably changed unless it departs from the concept of the present invention. Therefore, the scope of the present invention is not limited by the examples shown below.

45 **[0051]** In the following Examples 1 to 4, each ingredient indicated in Table 1 was used as an emulsification active ingredient of the sphingoglycolipid represented by the formula (I). All of the sphingoglycolipids contained as the active ingredient had a normal chain alkyl group having a carbon number of 12 as R₃.

Table 1

Active ingredient	R ₁	R ₂	Weight part
1	Structure A	Structure a	1.00
2	Structure A	Structure b	1.00
3	Structure A	Structure c	1.00
4	Structure B	Structure a	1.00

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Table 1 (continued)

Active ingredient	R ₁	R ₂	Weight part
5	Structure B	Structure b	1.00
6	Structure B	Structure c	1.00
7	Structure C	Structure a	1.00
8	Structure C	Structure b	1.00
9	Structure C	Structure c	1.00
10	Structure D	Structure a	1.00
11	Structure D	Structure b	1.00
12	Structure D	Structure c	1.00
13	Structure A	Structure a	0.50
	Structure A	Structure b	0.50
14	Structure B	Structure a	0.50
	Structure B	Structure b	0.50
15	Structure A	Structure a	0.50
	Structure B	Structure a	0.50
16	Structure A	Structure b	0.50
	Structure B	Structure b	0.50
17	Structure A	Structure a	0.25
	Structure B	Structure a	0.25
	Structure C	Structure a	0.25
	Structure D	Structure a	0.25
18	Structure A	Structure b	0.25
	Structure B	Structure b	0.25
	Structure C	Structure b	0.25
	Structure D	Structure b	0.25
19	Structure A	Structure a	0.45
	Structure A	Structure b	0.45
	Structure A	Structure c	0.10
20	Structure B	Structure a	0.45
	Structure B	Structure b	0.45
	Structure B	Structure c	0.10
21	Structure C	Structure a	0.20
	Structure C	Structure b	0.40
	Structure C	Structure c	0.40
22	Structure D	Structure a	0.20
	Structure D	Structure b	0.40
	Structure D	Structure c	0.40

(Example 1)

Preparation of cosmetic cream

5 **[0052]** The materials of Ingredients A shown in Table 2 were stirred with heating to form a uniform solution at 80°C. To this solution, Ingredient B was slowly added, while operating a homogenizer, to form a gel, which was further stirred for 30 minutes. Then, a mixed solution of Ingredient C was slowly added to the mixture, and it was stirred for 10 minutes. Further, a mixed solution of Ingredient D was slowly added to the mixture, and it was stirred for 10 minutes. Since the viscosity of the mixture was decreased as Ingredients C and D were added, the stirring speed of the homogenizer was gradually lowered.

10 **[0053]** Separately, the materials of Ingredient E were mixed at room temperature to prepare a uniform solution. To this solution, Ingredient F was added to form a uniform mixture, and Ingredient G was further added to it to prepare a uniform mixture.

15 **[0054]** The mixture of Ingredients A, B, C, and D was added to the mixture of Ingredients E, F, and G, and the whole mixture was homogenized and degassed to produce a cosmetic cream.

Table 2

Ingredient	Weight part
(Ingredient A)	
Each active ingredient shown in Table 1	1.25
Glycerin	12.50
Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate	0.10
(Ingredient B)	
Phytosqualane	30.00
(Ingredient C)	
Dipotassium glycyrrhizinate	0.05
Purified water	2.50
(Ingredient D)	
1,3-Butylene glycol	2.50
Purified water	1.10
(Ingredient E)	
1,3-Bbutylene glycol	4.00
Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate	0.15
Purified water	29.35
(Ingredient F)	
Carboxyvinyl polymer solution (2% aqueous solution of Hibis Waco 103)	15.00
(Ingredient G)	
10% Aqueous solution of potassium hydroxide	1.50

(Example 2)

Preparation of emollient cream

55 **[0055]** Emollient creams were produced in the same manner as in Example 1 using the ingredients indicated in the table mentioned below.

Table 3

	Ingredient	Weight part
5	Each active ingredient of Table 1	5.0
	Stearyl alcohol	6.0
	Stearic acid	2.0
10	Hydrogenated lanolin	4.0
	Squalane	9.0
	Octyl dodecanol	10.0
	1,3-Butylene glycol	10.0
15	Coloring matter	0.5
	Antiseptic	0.1
	Antioxidant	0.1
20	Purified water	53.3

(Example 3)

25 Preparation of hand cream

[0056] Hand creams were produced in the same manner as in Example 1 using the ingredients indicated in the table mentioned below.

Table 4

	Ingredient	Weight part
	Each active ingredient of Table 1	3.0
35	Glycerin	20.0
	Urea	2.0
	Vaseline	6.0
40	Liquid paraffin	10.0
	Purified water	59.0

(Example 4)

45

Preparation of anti-atopy ointment

[0057] Anti-atopy ointments were produced in the same manner as in Example 1 using the ingredients indicated in the table mentioned below.

50

Table 5

	Ingredient	Weight part
55	Each active ingredient of Table 1	3.0
	Vaseline	24.0
	Stearyl alcohol	21.0

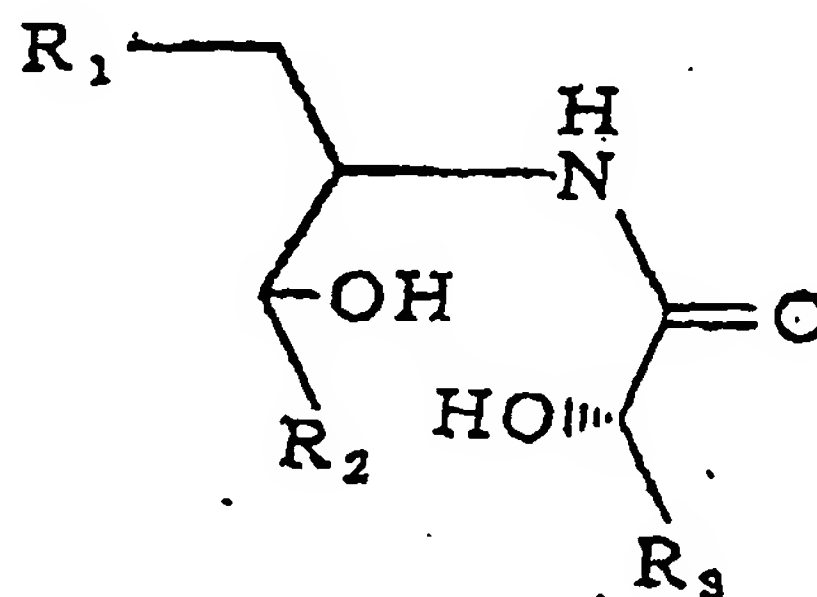
Table 5 (continued)

Ingredient	Weight part
Propylene glycol	13.0
Antiseptic	0.2
Purified water	38.8

[0058] The sphingoglycolipids disclosed in the present specification have marked moisturizing effect, skin roughening preventing effect, and emulsifying effect. Therefore, the emulsifiers of the present invention containing these sphingoglycolipids are very useful for the production of emulsified compositions including moisturizers, skin roughening inhibitors and the like. For this reason, the emulsifiers of the present invention can be widely used for the various products including cosmetic and medical products that are directly applied to the skin.

Claims

1. An emulsifier containing a sphingoglycolipid which has a structure represented by the following formula:

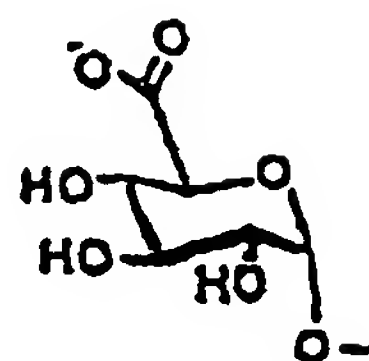


(I)

wherein R_1 is a saccharide moiety which consists of three to four hexoses selected from the group consisting of uronic acid, glucosamine, galactose and mannose, or one uronic acid, R_2 is an alkyl group, which may have a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group or an alkynyl group, and R_3 is an alkyl group, and the alkyl group, the alkenyl group and the alkynyl group may have a normal chain or a branched chain and may be substituted or unsubstituted.

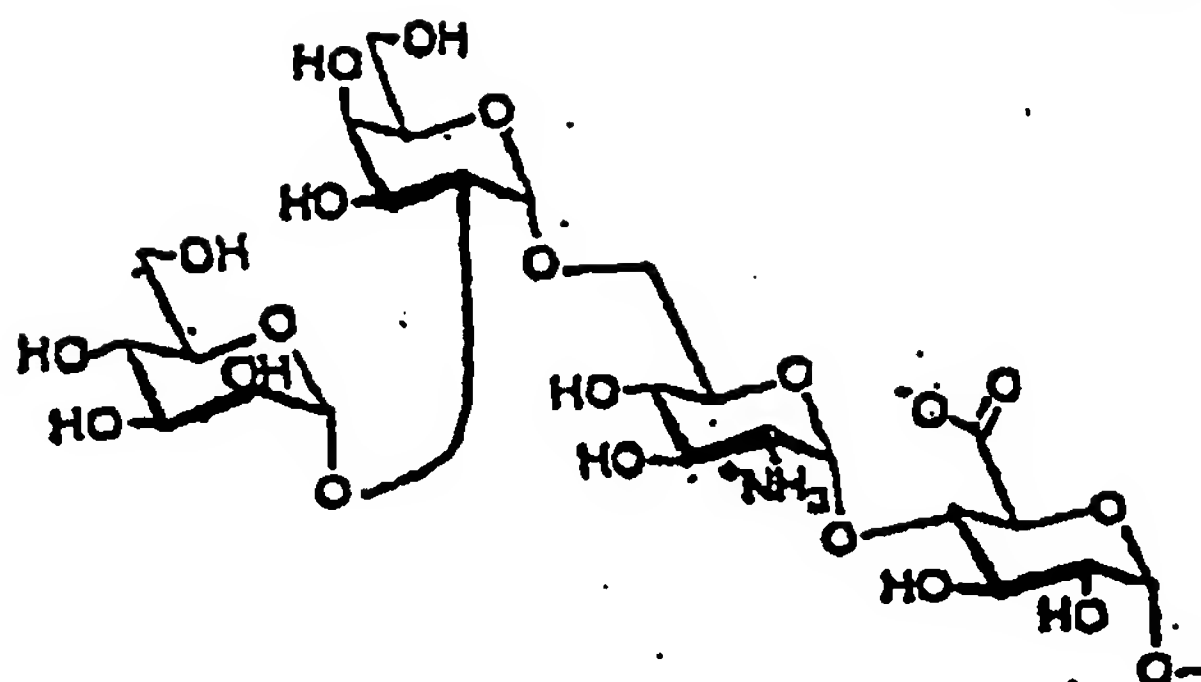
2. The emulsifier of claim 1, wherein R_1 consists of 3 or 4 hexoses.
3. The emulsifier of claim 1 or 2, wherein R_1 is a saccharide moiety consisting of four hexoses of uronic acid, glucosamine, galactose and mannose, saccharide moiety consisting of three hexoses of uronic acid, glucosamine and galactose, or saccharide moiety consisting of four hexoses of uronic acid, galactose and two glucoses.
4. The emulsifier of claim 1, wherein R_1 has a structure represented by any one of the following formulas:

5



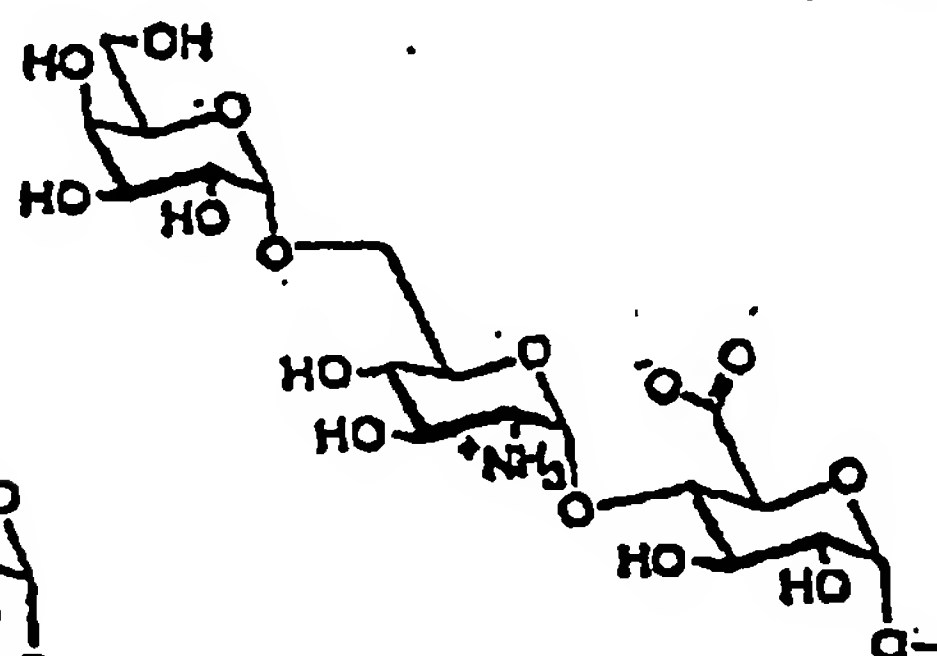
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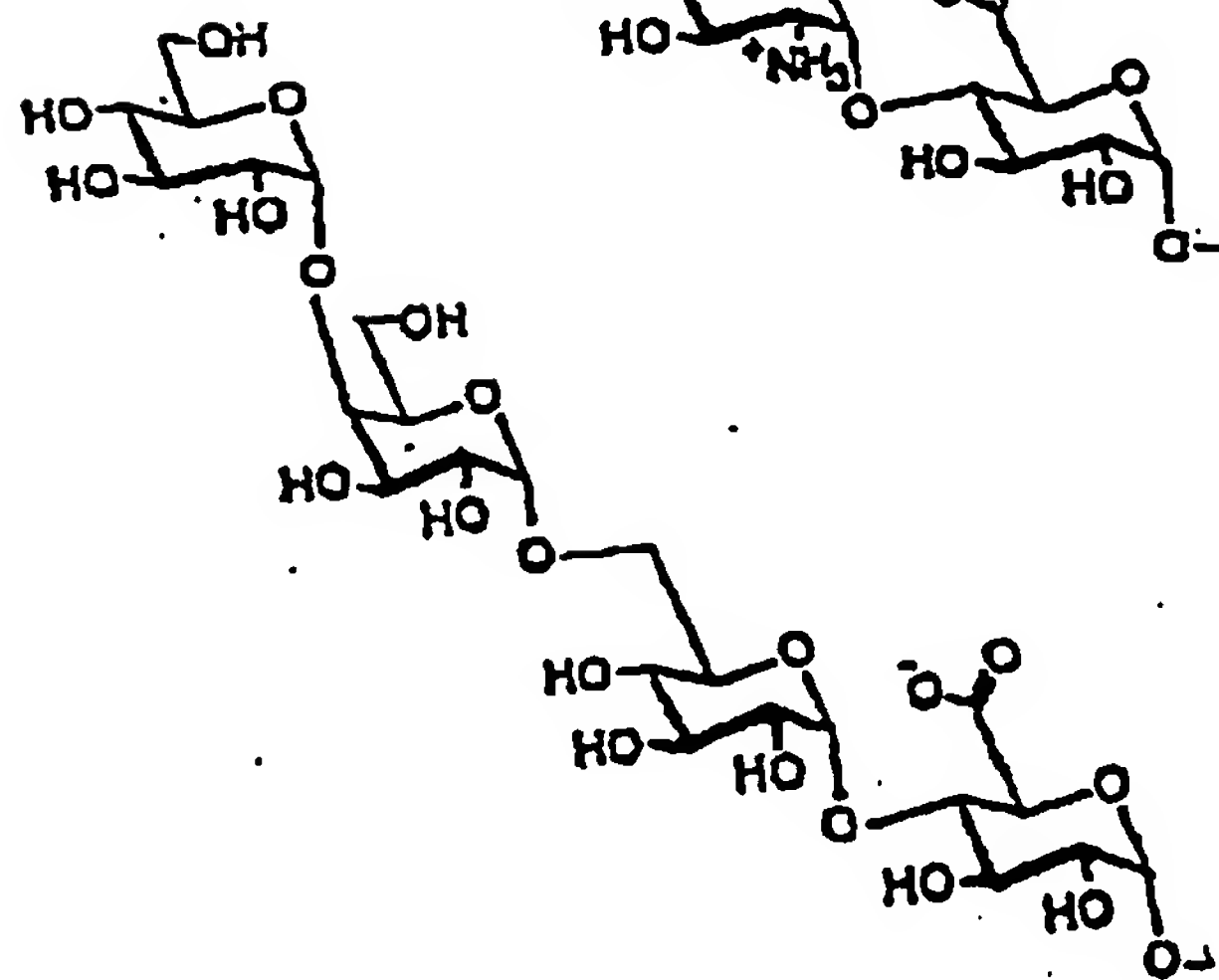
B

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C

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D

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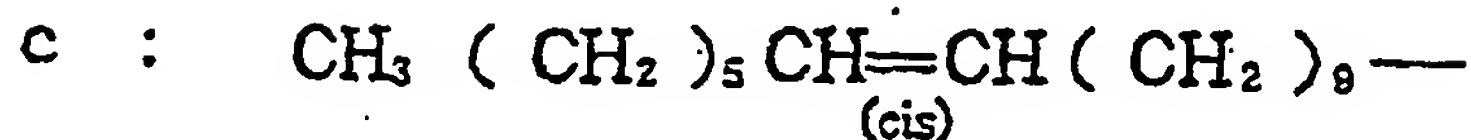
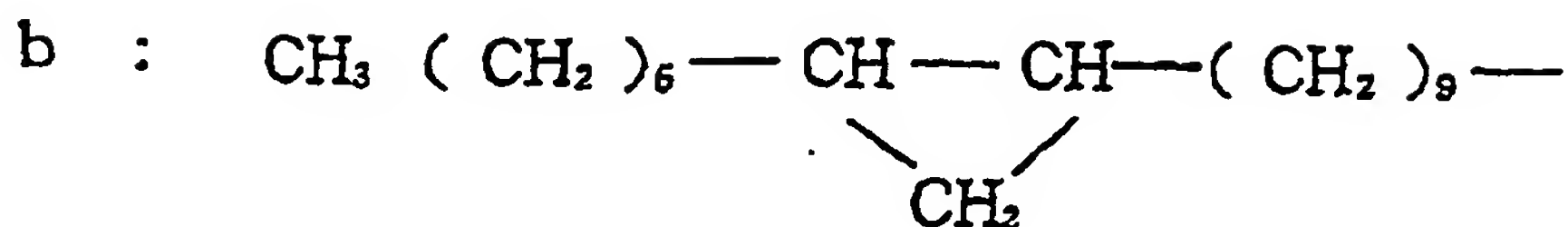
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5. The emulsifier of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein R_2 has a carbon number of 15-25.

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6. The emulsifier of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein R_2 has a structure represented by any one of the following formulas:

55



7. The emulsifier of any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein R_3 is a substituted or unsubstituted normal chain alkyl group having a carbon number of 10-20.
8. The emulsifier of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein R_3 is a normal chain alkyl group having a carbon number of 12.
9. The emulsifier of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein R_1 has Structure A, B, C or D and R_2 has Structure a, b or c.
10. A method for producing an emulsified composition comprising mixing the emulsifier of any one of claims 1 to 9 with a polyhydric alcohol and a fat or oil component to form a gel, and emulsifying the gel through mixing with an aqueous component.
11. An emulsified composition produced by the method of claim 10.
12. An emulsified composition produced by using the emulsifier of any one of claims 1 to 9 as a sole emulsifier.
13. The emulsified composition of claims 11 or 12 which further contains an ingredient selected from the group consisting of skin whitening agent, coloring matter, aromatic, antiseptic, pigment, fungicide, antioxidant, UV absorber, infrared absorber, fluorescent material, sequestering agent, binder, extender, resolution agent, blood circulation accelerator, cell activator and antibiotic.
14. The emulsified composition of any one of claims 11 to 13 which contains 0.05 to 30% by weight of the emulsifier of claim 1, 1 to 60% by weight of a polyhydric alcohol, and 10 to 90% by weight of an oil component.

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